



BC Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service  
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**Date:** April 29, 2021

**Administrative Circular:** 2021:18

**ATTN:** Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices  
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators  
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2: Immunization,  
Part 4 – Biological Products**

## **Part 4 – Biological Products**

### **COVID-19 Vaccines**

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) (AstraZeneca/Verity Pharmaceuticals)**

- The age indication has been revised to individuals 30 years of age and older per [NACI's](#) updated recommendation. Footnote A has been revised to further clarify that informed consent should include the risk of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) versus the individual's risk of serious illness from COVID-19, and when they would be eligible to receive an mRNA vaccine (see [BC Government's COVID-19 Immunization Plan](#) for timelines).
- Adverse Events: Information related to Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS), formerly known as Vaccine-Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT), has been revised to indicate its estimated occurrence is approximately 1 in 100,000 vaccine recipients. Additionally, 'headache beginning beyond 4 days after vaccination' has been added to the list of symptoms warranting medical attention.
- The [COVID-19 Vaccines HealthLinkBC File](#) has been updated accordingly.

**Please remove page numbers:** 1-4 dated April 20, 2021  
**Please add new page numbers:** 1-4 dated April 29, 2021

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If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: [stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca](mailto:stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca)).

Sincerely,



Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM  
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Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service  
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